Setting up of Sports Regulatory Authority

1161. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to establish a Sports Regulatory Authority to improve the performance of India's sportspersons at global events;

(b) whether the proposed regulatory authority would be modelled on national sports bodies in China and Cuba;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the proposed regulatory authority would help in resolving disputes between National Sports Federations that crop up often?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) Yes, Sir. The draft Comprehensive National Sports Policy, 2007 prepared by the Ministry emphasizes the need for appropriate constitutional, legal and institutional measures to achieve the twin related objectives "SPORTS FOR ALL" and "EXCELLENCE IN SPORTS". There is a proposal in the draft to set up an independent Sports Regularoty Authority.

(b) and (c) The proposed Sports Regulatory Authority has not been modeled on the national sports bodies of China and Cuba. However, some other key lessons have been learnt from countries such as China and Cuba, where sports and youth development, and indeed national development, have been integrated in such a manner that they have made great progress in achieving the twin related objectives of broad-basing sports and achieving excellence in individual disciplines.

(d) The proposal to set up an independent Sports Regulatory Authority is designed to resolve sports-related disputes in an open and transparent manner by an independent statutory authority, specifically aimed and distancing Government from being involved with such dispute-resolutions as at present. The draft policy is still in the consultative process. The draft provisions with regard to the proposed Sports Regulatory Authority are being substantially revised to take account of objections raised and to bring the proposal in conformity with international practice and past precedent.

Encouragement to Sports

†1162. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the talented students are given less encouragement in sports at district level in the country;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal for formulating any National Scheme for the encouragement in sports and to decentralize the sports activities at district level; and

(c) if so, the effective steps that are proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) The lack of adequate sports infrastructure, including training facilities, in rural areas has

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.